

Danger for the Wetlands in Littering

As Croony the Crawfish was swimming along in his peaceful wetland, he started to notice big lumps of trash and tin cans all over the place. He looked around, wanting to see the humans he knew caused this.

There was a party going in a boat. People were drinking and sitting around a campfire. When they finished with the drinks, they threw it right on into the wetland as if it were a trash can!

He went home that night and, over dinner, told his ma and pa about what he saw.

"Told ya before, didn't I son," said his ma, "ain't nothing good 'bout those humans. Don't care 'bout this wetland or any other habitat one bit. Just go 'round and litter, like the Earth's one big trash can for them to use."

"But," interrupted his pa, "not all humans are the same, sweetheart. Some care 'bout the Earth and the animals on it lots."

"Myths 'n' legends, you old coot," she responded playfully. But did they see a longing in her eyes?

The next day, Croony took another swim. This time, as he was swimming, he saw a girl, most likely in her pre-teens, and a considerably older man who must have been her pa.

"Just great," Croony thought to himself, "more humans to destroy our beautiful wetland."

But, as Croony watched them, he found out that they weren't littering and polluting the wetland, but cleaning it up. They both wore a water-proof camera around their neck and water-proof trash bags. The girl and her pa went into the water and started to pick up the litter from the other day.

"So," thought Croony, again, "pa was right after all. Some humans do care. So much for myths 'n' legends."

The pre-teen and her dad were people who cared for the wetlands and the animals that lived there. The cameras they had were to take pictures of the site and make a presentation to show how harmful littering can be.

Like those people, we have to try to protect the environment and Louisiana's natural treasures. Don't be the destroyer, be the restorer, the healer. It's a beautiful world if we make it. What can you do to help?

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